


# MUSIC AT CONVOCAATION HALL

PRESENTS



## *Gustav Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde*

Benjamin Butterfield, tenor  
Elizabeth Turnbull, mezzo  
John Hess, piano

Friday, September 23, 2011 at 8:00 pm  
Convocation Hall, Old Arts Building



# DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Homecoming Concert 2011  
Sunday, September 25, 2011 at 2pm in Convocation Hall  
Featuring **University Symphony Orchestra** and the  
**Symphonic Wind Ensemble**  
Admission by donation

Music at Convocation Hall presents:

## **Brahms Sonatas**

Tanya Prochazka, cello & Janet Scott Hoyt, piano  
Friday, October 14, 2011 at 8pm in Convocation Hall  
Featuring Brahms *Sonatas Opus 120 for Clarinet & Piano*, arr. for  
cello by Tanya Prochazka and *Sonata in G (D) Major Opus 78 for*  
*Violin & Piano*, arr. for cello & piano by Julius Klengel  
\$60 Season Flex Pass | \$20 Adults | \$15 Seniors | \$10 Students  
tickets available at the door on the evening of the performance

Music at Winspear presents:

## **Celebrating the Leaders of Tomorrow:**

### **Award Winning Graduate Student Performers & Composers**

Monday, October 17, 2011 at 8pm at the Winspear Centre for the Arts  
Featuring performances by:  
Wendy Nieuwenhuis, Chee Meng Low, Sandra Joy Friesen, Colin  
Labadie, Yoana Kyurkchieva & Viktoria Rieswich-Dapp  
\$60 Season Flex Pass | \$20 Adults | \$15 Seniors | \$10 Students  
Tickets available in advance through the Department of Music (3-82  
Fine Arts Building, U of A Campus | 780.492.0601| [music@ualberta.ca](mailto:music@ualberta.ca)) or at the door on the evening of the performance

Kilburn Memorial Concert Series presents the 2011/12 Visiting Quartet in  
Residence:

## **Afiara Quartet**

Yuri Cho, violin; Adrian Fung, cello; David Samuel, viola; Valerie Li, violin  
Friday, November 4, 2011 at 8pm in Convocation Hall  
Featuring works by Haydn, Abigaña & Dvorak  
\$60 Season Flex Pass | \$20 Adults | \$15 Seniors | \$10 Students  
Tickets available at the door on the evening of the performance

## **The University Strings**

Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 2pm in Convocation Hall  
Featuring works by Copland  
Admission by donation

Wind Music from Around the World

## **Symphonic Wind Ensemble**

Friday, November 25, 2011 at 8pm in Convocation Hall  
Featuring works by Ito, Milhaud, de Meij & Nixon  
Admission by donation



## Programme

*Das Lied von der Erde* (1908/1909)

Gustav Mahler  
(1860-1911)

Performed by:

Benjamin Butterfield (tenor, U. Victoria),  
Elizabeth Turnbull (mezzo, U. Alberta),  
John Hess (pianist, U. Western Ontario)

*Das Lied von der Erde*, by Gustav Mahler, is a vocal/orchestral work for alto, tenor and symphony (or solo piano), written in 1908/09 to text by Hans Bethge (*The Chinese Flute*). *Das Lied* will be performed with surtitles of translated text, and without an intermission (approx. 65 minutes). It is divided into six 'songs', sung alternately by tenor and alto.

This concert is part of a reciprocity venture involving three universities - the University of Alberta, the University of Victoria and the University of Western Ontario. It will be performed at all three schools within one week, with the musicians giving master classes at one another's institutions. Although this piece is in fact a symphony, Mahler did not call it thusly as he was afraid of the curse of the 9th symphony (a number of other composers - Schubert, Beethoven, Bruckner- died after composing their 9th symphonies). The piece is richly scored and full of atmosphere which is suggested by the text but which is CREATED by mood manifested in orchestra textures. Mahler was drawn to texts about human frailty and life's struggles. In particular, he was fascinated by the juxtaposition of the desire of humanity to experience life, while knowing that in the end, we will have to face death. The fleeting beauty and joys of the earth and the transience of life as represented by Hans Bethge's poems were thus very compelling material for Mahler. Man's struggle takes on a personal nature in this work, as the music and text depict tonally and poetically Mahler's existential battle with his own mortality, and his final reconciliation and sense of being reunited with nature and to being returned to the bosom of 'mother earth'.

# Give *the* Gift of Music

Interested in making a difference in the lives of students?

A gift to the Department of Music makes it possible for us to offer outstanding educational opportunities, improved performance and teaching facilities, well-maintained instruments and experiences designed to enhance our students' education and expand our faculty's presence internationally. Your donation helps realize the potential of our students and through them, enrich our community and our world.

Each donation makes a difference. It means new opportunities for our students. It can fund new research, provide new learning experiences, build new spaces or give the gift of education to a student who would otherwise not have the possibility.

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